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servant and slave, who were recorded as "*head-rights*" in the land-grant books, go far towards supplying the desired information. The names of *grantees* of the land could always be readily found through the full index to the land books, but there has heretofore been absolutely no guide to the thousands of "*head-rights*." This guide Mr. Greer has prepared, and has done his work carefully and well.

REFERENCES TO ENGLISH SURNAMES IN 1601. An Index Giving About 19,650 References to Surnames Contained in the Printed Registers of 778 English Parishes During the First Year of the XVII Century. By F. K. & D. Hitching, 1910. Charles A. Bernau, Walton-on-Thames [England], pp. lxx.

Mr. Bernau, who is publishing a series of valuable handbooks for genealogical investigators, has, in this volume, opened a new field. One of the most common obstacles in the path of an American writing to trace his English ancestry is the lack of knowledge of the English home of his emigrant ancestor. This book, giving a list of surnames appearing in parish registers which have been printed (and are thus more accessible to the student) will prove a great aid.

The genealogist, who has traced back a family several generations and then loses all trace of it, is obliged to waste much of his time in searching "likely" parish registers, which, on examination, prove to contain no data for him.

This volume will provide him with clues as to which printed registers are certainly worth consulting, and may guide him to the parish from which his family came.

A simple plan has been adopted which will enable anyone to see at a glance the registers in which search should be made for data about members of a family of *any particular county*. The advantage of such a system is obvious, especially when it is necessary to consult the index for a common surname.

Few genealogical searchers would have the energy to consult all the volumes, one year of which is indexed here, in the hope of locating the various branches of their families spread over the country in the early part of the seventeenth century. Those who have that energy should still prefer to find the work done for them already, so that they may devote the time thus saved to following up the clues which this volume will suggest.

The year 1601 was chosen after much careful consideration. An earlier date would have excluded those parishes, the registers of which start after 1600, and it would have been difficult to recognise many of the surnames in the early registers owing to the erratic spelling of the period. On the other hand, a later date would not have benefited to the same extent the many Americans whose ancestors left England (from unknown parishes) in the seventeenth century.

Locating, as it does, about 19,650 branches of English families existing over 300 years ago, the work should prove of considerable assistance to the many students (not necessarily genealogists) who take an interest in the history of the English nation or to whom the origin of nomenclature appeals.

Incidentally, the work provides the most up-to-date list of practically all the English parish registers which have been printed and which date back to 1601. This list gives the names of the publishers, editors or societies issuing the various registers.

The editor states that if this work meets with a reception at all proportionate to the labor and expense it has entailed, it will be followed by similar volumes indexing 1602, 1603, and so on, until at least thirty years (one generation) have been indexed.

**A HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES FOR SCHOOLS.** By S. E. Forman. 490 pp. Price \$1.00. The Century Company, New York, 1910.

The great improvement of recent years in the character of school histories is well illustrated in this latest addition to the list of such publications, from which the judicious teacher may select a text-book for his classes. On cursory examination it seems that the author has been fairly successful in his effort "to tell the story in such a way that the pupil may follow as with the eye each successive advance in that wave of civilisation which has always been moving towards the West." In accurate statement and due proportion in presenting facts, the book will rank well, with the great advantage of an easy style that makes the narrative interesting. An occasional paragraph on controverted points or burning questions will afford good material for critical discussion by a class of bright boys; and an appendix of documents, topics for review work, with a reading list of generally good books, presents an attractive apparatus for class work. The numerous illustrations and maps are well chosen in subject and done in a style of excellence that distinguishes the printing of the Century Company.

**GILES CARTER OF VIRGINIA; GENEALOGICAL MEMOIR.** By General William Giles Harding Carter, United States Army. Author of "Horses, Saddles and Bridles," "From Yorktown to Santiago," "Old Army Sketches," &c. The Lord Baltimore Press, Baltimore, 1909, pp. 134, with portraits and index.

Though he was born in another State, Virginians will be glad to claim the author, who is one of the most distinguished officers of the army, as a member of an old Virginia family.

Giles Carter, who was born in 1634, came to Virginia and settled in Henrico county. Several generations of his descendants lived here, and later members of the family removed to other Virginia counties and to